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09/30/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of :  
M. Siksa, et al : Group Art No.: 2151  
Serial No. 09/119,427 : Examiner: C. Anya  
Filed: July 20, 1998 : for IBM Corporation  
Anne Vachon Dougherty  
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR 3173 Cedar Road  
PROVIDING GRAPHICAL USER Yorktown Heights, NY 10598  
INTERFACE CONTROL ENHANCERS

DECLARATION OF PRIOR INVENTION IN THE UNITED STATES TO  
OVERCOME CITED PATENT OR PUBLICATION (37 CFR 1.131)

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

1. This declaration is to establish completion of the invention in this application in the United States at a date prior to December 9, 1996, which is the earliest effective date of the U. S. Patent No. 6,121,964, of Andrew, et al entitled "Method and System for Automatic Persistence of Controls in a Windowing Environment" which was cited by the Examiner in the prosecution of the above-identified patent application.

2. The people making this declaration are Mary Ellen Siksa and Steven Pothoven, the original joint inventors, who are the present applicants for the pending patent application.

3. To establish the date of completion of the invention of this application, the following attachment is submitted as evidence:

the invention disclosure submission form.

From the attachment, it can be seen that the invention in this application was made at least by the date December 9, 1996, which is a date earlier than the effective date of the cited reference.

4. As a person signing below:

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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Inventor's signature Mary Ellen Siksa

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